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INVESTIGATION AND AUDIT DAYSION Public utilities commission of Ohio August 7, 2008

08-970-61-550

Sirs.

Duke Energy

Corporate Offices

Charlotte, NC 28202

526 South Church Street

I have lived in the same house for over sixteen years. In all that time my neighborhood has experienced only one prolonged outage, and that was due to a tornado! Yet, in the last sixty days, we have experienced <u>three</u> outages, with the accompanying basement flooding, food spoilage, and electrical equipment damage.

Recently, I received notice that Duke has requested several rate hikes in the state of Ohio. This strikes me as absurd and ridiculous, given the fact of the recent outages. What are we paying for? Why should we pay <u>more</u> for inferior service?

I am copying my state utilities commission, and my district representative, to let them know that any rate increases are not to be considered, and dismissed outright. It is beyond reason that we should suffer an increase in rates, when the quality of service has declined to the point where every moderate storm that comes through our area results in prolonged outages and flood damage!

I am disappointed that Duke Energy has no more regard for their customers than this. Please work to rectify this situation.

Sincerely.

Gary Smith

510 Blackhawk Trail Loveland, Ohio 45140

Cc:

Ohio Public Utilities Commission 1

180 East Broad Street Columbus, Ohio 43215

State Representative Joe Uecker 77 South High Street, District 66 Columbus, Ohio 43215-6111 2000 AUG 20 PH 4: 22

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